

- WFO Mobile IFPS Training Series -

Question\ Exercise Set #1

- Answers -

- 1) List the different model types (hint: there are eight of them), availability, resolution and the valid range in the matrix below.

Model Type	Availability	Resolution	Valid Range
NGM MOS (ie.. FWC)	2 x daily	3 h	60 h
MRF	1 x daily	T170 (or ~80 km) \ 12 h	0 - 240 h
ETA	2 x daily	32 km \ 6h	0 -60 h
AVN	2 x daily	T170 (or ~80 km) \ 6 h	0 - 72 h
RUC	8 x daily	40-60 km \ 1 h- 3 h	0 - 12 h

Note - No MRF MOS (the 'MEX') nor AVN MOS (the 'MAV) exists yet in GFE for ingest.

- 2) **Question** - What does a yellow traffic light tell you about source and destination modification ? How do you physically change a traffic light's color ?
- a) A yellow light says that both the source and destination data sets have been modified. Selecting the destination icon will not cause source data to update destination.
- b) right click and select another color.
- 3) Launch the Interactive Zone Combination Selector (ICS) application from the IFPS Master Menu. Note that the traffic light between Grids-to-Zones must be green for ICS to start.

Task 1 - create a contiguous zone combination

Task 2 - create a non-contiguous zone combination

- 4) **Task** - Make sure that all traffic lights are red. Launch the Interactive Guidance Revisor (or IGR) without using ICS.

Question - Why would you ever do this ?

To update the ZFP (or matrices) when you desire to keep the zone groupings as is.

- 5) **Task** - Display the following from the IGR Main Menu Bar : Forecast Text and the Full Matrix. Next, toggle the resolution between 3- and 6-hours.

Question - When toggling the time resolution, what happens inside the Full Matrix ?

The question above was in error. It should have instructed you to toggle between 3- and 6- hour time resolution. In the 3-hour resolution you would see the first four zone periods. In the 6-hour resolution you would see out to seven days in six hour columns.

Task - Using the mouse pointer, roam from zone-grouping to zone-grouping.

Question - What happens to the data inside the matrix ?

It changes (or updates) zone groupings as you move from group to group. Or, within a single group it changes time period as you move within a single group.

Question - What happens inside of the forecast text window ?

It changes from forecast period-to-forecast period as you move between forecast period columns.

Task - Display the 3-hour resolution matrix. Become intimately familiar with each of the forecast parameters and symbols by toggling. Referring to your assigned readings may help.

Hint : Use the increase\decrease mouse functions to help you toggle around.

- 6) **Task** - Display the 6-hour resolution matrix. Become intimately familiar with each of the forecast parameters and symbols by toggling. Referring to your assigned readings may help.
- 7) **Task** - Using the instructions in your assigned IGR readings, learn how to copy a single row of data (say the dewpoints) from one zone grouping to another. [**ADVISE**: the copy command will be your best friend !!!]

Question - What is the difference between contiguous and non-contiguous zone combinations ?

Non-contiguous zone combinations are combinations that do not share a common geographic border. Contiguous is opposite.

Task 3 - Select previous cycle's zone combinations from the Main Menu Bar.
Select the **Undo** function.

Question - (Y\N) Did the zone combination return to the previously selected zone combinations ?

Many people had problems with this question. I learned that under 'normal' circumstances that the zone combination would return to the previously selected zone combinations if someone established a zone combination from the 12 hour cycle immediately preceding your doing this exercise. Otherwise you would get a 'grayed out' menu.

Task 4 - Display the data matrices (from Main Menu Bar) and change the font size.
Change the font size back.

Task 5 - Unload the UGC label on the map display. Unload the UGC labels.

Question - How do you Save your desired ICS zone combination ?

Simply, *File* (from Main Menu) and then release mouse on *Save* (submenu).

Task 6 - Successfully exit the ICS Application.

Question - What happened when you exited ICS ?

It advances to IGR automatically.

Question – How do you turn off the copy command ?

Right click outside of Full Matrix (ie.. in the background) and select 'Inc\Dec.'

- 9) **Question** - There are two copy methods to move data from one matrix to another. What are each of the two methods called and how are they different ?

Method 1 - Copying Matrix from one Matrix to Another (see bottom half of page 5 - 23 in IGR Handout for step-by-step instructions). SOO covers this during 1:1 and, if he forgets, hold his feet to the fire.

Method 2 - The Drag and Drop Copy Method (see top half of page 5-24 in IGR Handout for step-by-step instructions). SOO covers this during 1:1, and if he forgets, hold his feet to the fire.

- 10) **Question** - In GFE, what is the difference between using the choices 'Copy Select From' and using 'Copy All Grids from' When it comes to populating the grids for a specified time period. Please be thorough with your answers.

Copy Select Grids From - displays a dialogue that offers a list of model databases from which individual grids (in the specified time range) can be copied into the forecast (or 'rolling') data base.

Copy All Grids From - displays a dialogue that offers a list of model databases from which all grids from that model are copied into the forecast (thereby surely overwriting previous grids) database. If you select Copy All Grids From instead of Copy Slect Grids From (selecting 'Undo Last Grid Edit' will save you).

- 11) **Task** - Exit the IGR Application without saving.

Hope you were successful !